

# **CONTROLLER STEVE WESTLY**

## **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

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## **Westly: Bond and Cutting Waste Save Schools and Services**

**Statement of State Controller Steve Westly  
December 5, 2003**

“California is at a grave juncture on the budget. Unless we act now, the state will run out of cash in June, imperiling our schools and vital services.

Surgery is painful, has side effects and is costly. That doesn’t mean we abandon the patient.

To fix the fiscal crisis, the Governor and responsible legislators proposed bonds that will provide a cushion for today so we can solve the fundamental fiscal problems that plague our state.

We may disagree about the details, but we all agree the bond is a serious response to a serious problem.

If we’re going to borrow big to fix the fiscal crisis, we need to reform big. The Governor needs to lead by example and cut waste from the top.

If we don’t act today, our children, the elderly and everyone who depends on vital services are at risk.

This is a time for unity and responsibility. I will work with legislators and Governor Schwarzenegger to help him deliver on eliminating waste and getting our fiscal house in order.”

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